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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFCCS

SUBJECT: (Uncl) Basic Policy Concerning SAMOS — 29 December 1960 (Expires 29 March 1961)

TO: DEPUTIES, DIRECTORS, AND CHIEFS OF COMPARABLE OFFICES (NO. 25)

1. Reference is made to: (U)

a. Secretary of the Air Force Order No. 115.1, 31 August 1960.

b. Secretary of the Air Force Order No. 116.1, 31 August 1960.

c. AFCSS letter, subject "Missile and Satellite Systems", 14 October 1960.

d. SAFOI-3c message, 1506/60, 15 December 1960.

2. Secretary of the Air Force Order No. 115.1, dated 31 August 1960, established the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. It provides that the Director of the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems is primarily responsible for assisting the Secretary in discharging his responsibility for the direction, supervision and control of the SAMOS project. (U)

3. Secretary of the Air Force Order No. 116.1, dated 31 August 1960, directed the organization of a SAMOS Project Office as a field extension of the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. It specifies that the Director of the SAMOS Project is responsible to and will report directly to the Secretary of the Air Force. (U)

4. In recognition of the special management procedures and the necessity of achieving the program objectives at the earliest date, the following policy is established for the SAMOS program: (U)

a. No information concerning this program will be initiated by Air Force organizations. ~~(C)~~

b. This program is an R&D effort aimed at the development of various promising reconnaissance techniques. (U)

c. The R&D program will include all the necessary elements to insure that the data which is obtained can be efficiently and promptly exploited. ~~(S)~~

d. The nature and character of an ultimate operational system is completely conditional upon the success of the methods which will be exploited in the R&D program. Accordingly, progress to date in the R&D program does not warrant operational planning. However, as

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soon as sufficient R&D progress is made to justify effective operational planning, specific instructions will be issued to insure timely integration of this system in Air Force operational inventory. ~~(S)~~

5. The following actions will be taken by the appropriate Air Staff agency which are consistent with the established SAMOS management procedures and policy outlined above. (U)

a. SAMOS for the time being will not be included in the Program Documents (example: PG, PD) described in AFM 27-1. (U)

b. SAMOS project information will be furnished as necessary for legislative matters and for the Chief of Staff Policy Book by the Director of the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems. (U)

c. The Director of the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems will keep the key elements of the Air Staff and the commands informed, as necessary, regarding this program. Normal monitoring by the Weapons Board system is unnecessary, and no reviews or analyses will be undertaken by the various groups, panels, boards and committees. (U)

d. Documents reflecting Air Force requirements for reconnaissance will continue to be prepared and should be forwarded through normal channels to the USIB for consideration in SAMOS project requirements. ~~(S)~~

e. The SAMOS Working Group will be dissolved. (U)

f. Air Force Regulation 375 series will not apply to this program. (U)

R. M. Montgomery

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Major General, U. S. Air Force
Assistant Vice Chief of Staff